

IN THE SPECIFICATION

The following paragraphs are rewritten pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121.

1. Replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 3 of the specification with the following paragraph:

Applying a bold typeface to displayed text or numerals (a "bolding operation") is an example of an edit operation that is commonly available in word processing and other programs. To perform the bolding operation by explicit selection, the user first selects the text which is to be presented in bold typeface and then selects the bolding operation. For example, where a single word in a sentence is to be bolded, the user may use the pointer control device to position the pointer at a start of the word to be bolded and then simultaneously press a key on the pointer control device and move the pointer over the entire word. Commonly, the program displays the selection by inverting the display to show[n] the selected text as light letters on a dark background. The user may then release the pointer control device key and move the pointer on the GUI to a toolbar button and again click a key on the pointer control device. When the pointer control device key is pressed this last time, the bolding operation is applied to the selected word, leaving the word displayed in the desired bold typeface.

2. Replace the paragraph beginning at page 3, line 16 of the specification with the following paragraph:

Explicit selection may be cumbersome depending upon a number of factors including the nature of the GUI employed by the program and the nature of the pointer control device through which the cursor or pointer is controlled on the GUI. For example, where a single word is to be

edited, the user may be required to position the pointer at the start of the word, click a pointer control device key, and then drag the pointer to the end of the word. In this process, the user may inadvertently start the selection point after the start of the word or end the selection point somewhat before the end of the word. When this occurs, the user must un-select the incorrect selection and then start the selection process over from the beginning.

3. Replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 17 of the specification with the following paragraph:

Referring to Figure 3, the invention includes receiving the edit function input as shown at process block 31. Regardless of how the edit function input is entered, the input defines the edit operation to be performed. In the preferred form of the invention, input program code executed by the data processing system 10 receives the edit function input. This program code may include a series of prospective inputs, each associated with a different edit operation. Thus, the receipt of a particular edit function input defines the edit operation to be performed by the edit operation associated with the given input. For example, assume that the edit function input is entered by the combination of keystrokes "CTRL- B" as described above and that this combination of keystrokes is associated with the edit operation which changes the appearance of the text to a bold typeface. In this example, the input program code receives the "CTRL-B" input and defines the bolding operation as the edit operation to be performed according to the invention.

4. Replace the paragraph beginning at page 15, line 16 of the specification with the following paragraph:

Prior to entering the edit function input, the user has used the pointer control device associated the data processing system to position the pointer, in this case I-beam 44, over the word to be edited. When the user enters the edit function input by pressing "CTRL-B" as indicated at reference numeral 43 in Figure 4, the input program code executed by the data processing system receives the input as shown at process block 31 in Figure 3. In response to this edit function input, the target identifying program code obtains the coordinates of pointer 44 on the display at the time of the edit function input as shown at process block 34, and then identifies the target closest to the pointer coordinates as shown at process block 35. In the example shown in Figure 4, the target comprises the word "kind" over which the I-beam pointer was positioned as shown in upper block of text 40. The state checking program code determines the state of this target word as regular typeface. Since the result of decision block 37 in Figure 3 is that the edit operation is not currently applied to the target, the operation performance program code applies the edit operation to the target as indicated at process block 38, and then the process returns to start to await the next edit function input. The result of the process is shown by lower text block 41 in Figure 4, with the target word "kind" appearing in bold typeface.

5. Replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 13 of the specification with the following paragraph:

This process of editing a first target string may be described with the example text shown in Figure 5 and with reference to the process steps shown in Figure 3. This example again uses

the edit operation which changes the displayed typeface from regular to bold. The upper block of text 50 in Figure 5 shows the state of the text before the editing method is applied. The I-beam pointer 54 in this example is positioned over the word "kind" to which the example edit operation has already been applied, as indicated by the bold typeface in the figure. When the edit function input is entered as indicated at 53 in Figure 5, the process first goes through process blocks 31, 34, and 35 in Figure 3 and eventually to decision block 37. At decision block 37, the state of the target of minimum granularity, that is, the word "kind," indicates that the edit operation is currently applied to the target. The process therefore continues to process block 46 in Figure 3. At this point, the first target string identifying program code identifies the first target string. For purposes of this example, the first target string is defined as the entire first sentence of the example text 50 shown in Figure 5. The state checking program code then determines the state of the first target string shown at 50, and this state indicates that the edit operation is not currently applied to the first target string since only the word "kind" appears in bold typeface. Thus, the result that decision block 47 in Figure 3 is negative and the process proceeds to apply the edit operation as shown at process block 48. In our example of Figure 5, applying the edit operation in this fashion bolds the entire first target string, that is, the first sentence in the example text. This result is shown in the text block shown at 51 in Figure 5.

Respectfully submitted,

The Culbertson Group, P.C.

Dated: 19 Nov 2004

By: 

Russell D. Culbertson, Reg. No. 32,124

Russell C. Scott, Reg. No. 43,103

Trevor Lind, Reg. No. 54,785

1114 Lost Creek Boulevard, Suite 420

Austin, Texas 78746

(512) 327-8932

Attorneys for Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, (Fax No. 703-872-9306 on November 19, 2004.

Russell D. Culbertson, Reg. No. 32,124 

312 amendment.wpd